

NOTICE OF A CITIZENS INFORMATIONAL WORKSHOP FOR THE PROPOSED
CHARLOTTE RAILROAD IMPROVEMENT & SAFETY PROGRAM (CRISP);
NORFOLK SOUTHERN (NS) MAINLINE TRACK IMPROVEMENTS AND
CSX/NS MAINLINE GRADE SEPARATION PROJECT

TIP Project Nos. P-3800 & P-5002

Mecklenburg County

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) will hold a Citizens Informational Workshop for the above-mentioned railroad project on Monday, August 10, 2009, between the hours of 5:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. at the City of Charlotte Government Center – Room CH-14, located at 600 East 4th Street, Charlotte, 28202.

NCDOT representatives will be available in an informal setting to answer questions and receive comments about the proposed project. The opportunity to submit written comments and/or questions will also be provided and are encouraged. Interested citizens may attend at any time during the above mentioned hours. Please note: there will be no formal presentation.

Under TIP Project No. P-3800, NCDOT proposes to realign the Norfolk Southern rail line and implement track improvements necessary to return passenger rail service to Charlotte Center City. This project will also assist in introducing high speed passenger rail service to Charlotte. The proposed project will extend along the Norfolk Southern (NS) railroad from NS's Charlotte Junction (Milepost 381.5 – west of Morris Field Drive to Orr Road. The project will eliminate at least three (3) existing at-grade roadway/railroad crossings. The track improvements anticipated as part of this project will improve rail operations, increase freight and passenger rail efficiency, and eliminate the inherent safety concerns associated with at-grade roadway/railroad crossings.

Under TIP Project No. P-5002, NCDOT proposes to grade separate the existing at-grade crossing of the CSX SF rail line and the NS mainline, the two major Class I railroads in Center City Charlotte. The term grade separation simply means to elevate one roadway/railroad over the other by means of bridging. The proposed project will place the CSX mainline in a 3,400 feet trough that will run below the existing grade of the NS mainlines. This project will eliminate five (5) existing at-grade roadway/railroad crossings and it will grade separate one diamond railroad/railroad crossing. This separation will enhance safety, reduce noise, emissions and energy use, while improving rail operations, and increasing efficiency for freight and passenger rail.

Anyone desiring additional information may contact Marc Hamel, Environmental & Planning Branch, Rail Division at (919) 733-7245 x 270 or email: mhamel@ncdot.gov or Terry Winebrenner, Gannett Fleming, Inc., phone: (919) 859-4880 or email: twinebrenner@gfnet.com.

NCDOT will provide auxiliary aids and services under the Americans with Disabilities Act for disabled persons who wish to participate in this workshop. Anyone requiring special services should contact Mr. Hamel as early as possible so that arrangements can be made.